

VP2VIA

KØPCG 1981 DXPEDITION TO TORTOLA, B.V.I.

RADIO	DATE	TIME	MHz	REPORT 2X
WB9YSP	MAR. 24 ⁸¹	2305 GMT	21.0	SSB CW 599

THE QTH: Lying 60 miles east of Puerto Rico, the British Virgin Islands are chiefly volcanic in origin. TORTOLA, the largest of the Islands, has a population of 9,000 living mainly in the capital of Roadtown. TORTOLA'S jagged mountain peaks are covered with scrub, frangipani and yellow cedar along the southern coast, while the northern shores display white sandy beaches, groves of bananas, mangos and clusters of palm trees. Because of their position within the trade wind belt, the Islands have a balmy subtropical climate. Temperatures usually stay within the range of 77°-85° F.

THE OPERATION: After operating from the U.S. Islands as KØPCG/KV4, my son, KAØFRW (VP2VIB), and I arrived on Tortola March 23, 1981 for a four day operation. The station consisted of an ICOM 701 and a dipole on 10, 15 and 20 specially designed for the dxpedition by my QSL manager, WØANZ. Approximately 2,000 contacts were made. To those for whom this QSL represents a new country, we say congratulations, however, the pleasure was really all ours. To all the hams who made our operation so enjoyable, I express my gratitude. A special word of thanks to WØANZ and KAØHJC who didn't get to go with us. Maybe next time. 73s

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